



Barwon South Western Region
Palliative Care

The Palliative Approach Newsletter *September 2014*

The Palliative Approach Newsletter is a newsletter that is aimed at enhancing communication across residential and community aged care given that we are all spread geographically across a number of sites. We attempt to ensure the content is important and relevant to all staff working in aged care and disability services, providing opportunities for ongoing education. We also attempt to keep it to 1-2 pages if possible. We welcome your input to the newsletter, so if you would like to contribute to the Palliative Approach Newsletter, please email myra.mcrae@barwonhealth.org.au

Link Nurse Program

So far this year we have held four link nurse programs in Geelong and three in Colac. All workshops have been very well attended with good positive feedback received from participants. We are in the process of planning education for 2015 and planning on holding four Link Nurse Programs in Geelong and three in Colac throughout the year possibly more if there is a need (dates to be advised).

A Palliative Approach for PCW's

These workshops continue to be very popular among personal care workers. These are always fully booked in no time at all so if anyone would like to register for the workshops planned for 2015 it's best to register early. There will be four workshops in Geelong and three in Colac throughout 2015 (dates to be advised).

Workshops on the key processes of a palliative approach

In 2015 we will be having a trial of small workshops specifically focusing on the key processes of a palliative approach and the resources in the palliative approach toolkit i.e. Advance Care Planning, End of Life Care Pathways, Palliative Care Case Conferencing and utilizing the education resources from the PA Toolkit in your facility.

We hope that management will support staff who wish to attend any of these workshops by allocating some time each week to implement them in the workplace. It is an expectation that staff who apply to attend should have the support from management and feel passionate and committed to implementing the chosen process in their workplace.

Follow up support and advice will be offered to all staff who attend these workshops.

Please see the link below for the latest 'National Palliative Approach Toolkit for Residential Aged Care Facilities' newsletter which has some interesting information on the education resources in the PA Toolkit.

http://www.caresearch.com.au/Caresearch/Portals/0/PA-Toolkit/Newsletter/October_2014_Issue_5.pdf

Upcoming Education and resources

Free dementia course online

The University of Tasmania's Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) is a 9 week online course that builds upon the latest in international research on dementia. It is free and anyone can register.

The first offerings of this course attracted nearly 25,000 registrants from more than 95 countries.

For further information or to register visit:

<http://www.utas.edu.au/wicking/wca/mooc>

Food and the dying

For an interesting article that was written on a blog for the New York Times

http://well.blogs.nytimes.com/2014/08/21/food-and-the-dying-patient/?_php=true&_type=blogs&_php=true&_type=blogs&_php=true&_type=blogs&_php=true&_type=blogs&_r=3

Emotional connections

There has recently been some discussion on emotional connections between aged care staff and residents. This is a very personal issue, but also an organisational responsibility to provide support and guidance.

Please follow the links for two differing resources

<http://www.acas.org.uk/media/pdf/0/m/Managing-bereavement-in-the-workplace-a-good-practice-guide.pdf>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IUJFWXz-wY&feature=youtu.be>

Please don't hesitate to contact me regarding any issues related to a palliative approach for residents and clients

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